



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY TRIAL DEFENSE SERVICE
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, VA 23604

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFRD-JA-TDS

8 April 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR Lieutenant General Robert L. Caslen, Jr., Commander, U.S. Army
Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2300

SUBJECT: Submission Regarding Filing of Memorandum of Reprimand, LTC Brian D. Kerns

1. IAW paragraph 3-6a, AR 600-37, I have read and understand the unfavorable information presented against me and submit the following matters in my behalf.
2. First, I truly regret that this incident occurred under my watch. I am aware that my actions have caused you to question my judgment. Despite that, I am confident I still have the ability to provide valuable service to the Army and Soldiers. This memorandum and the accompanying documents are provided to support my request that you file this reprimand locally.
3. Second, as the former Brigade Executive Officer, I take full responsibility for everything that the Headquarters, 2d Brigade, 10th Mountain Division accomplished or failed to accomplish. All of the brigade staff sections and their actions fell under my purview and any of their shortcomings are ultimately my own.
4. Finally, without trying to be argumentative or defensive, fully understanding the seriousness of this reprimand and my culpability, I submit the following extenuation and rebuttal. Given the potential negative repercussions on my life and career that this filing decision will have, I respectfully request that you please consider the following:

a. I am accused of not taking the necessary steps to provide additional supervision of the S-2 section personnel, despite recognizing that the S-2 and S-2 NCOIC were weak leaders. Ideally, the S2 and NCOIC should not have deployed in their respective positions and I recognized this during our JRTC rotation. With no one to replace them on such short notice, however, this was simply unfeasible. In an attempt to overcome this shortfall, I put a great deal of effort into counseling and providing the S2 with oversight and mentorship. We also applied additional MI leadership from across the Brigade to provide oversight and strengthen our S2 section.

b. I am further accused of failing to put adequate measures in place when I learned that some Soldiers were placing unauthorized electronic media on the SIPR network. We fell in on networks and systems with significant operational and security shortfalls. Our network stability, reliability, and security improved dramatically based on the work of our S-6 and control measures I established. My focus was on enabling the Brigade Commander to battle command the brigade while protecting ourselves from external threats. I now realize that these measures

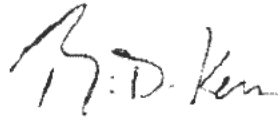
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were inadequate and for that I am truly contrite. Quite simply, I was so focused on protecting and enhancing our systems' capabilities that I overlooked the very real peril of internal threats.

5. In my more than eighteen years of service and six operational deployments I have consistently put the needs of the Army and my Soldiers above my own. I want to continue to serve the Army and respectfully request that you file this Memorandum of Reprimand in my local file. Thank you for your consideration Sir.

6. Point of contact is the undersigned at (b) (6) @us.army.mil.



BRIAN D. KERNS
LTC, AR
G3 Training

1 Encl.

1. OER, 02 JUN 2009 - 01 JUN 2010